Sri K. A. MATHIALAGAN : Breach of privilege had been committed. . .

Mr. SPEAKER : It is not a point of order.

Regarding giving notice of a matter of privilege, Rule 184 of the Assembly Rules says as follows :—

"A member wishing to raise a matter of privilege shall, before the commencement of the sitting of the day on which he proposes to raise the point, leave with the Speaker a written notice of the matter proposed to be raised."

What is this rule for? Can it be thrown out? The hon. Member must give me notice and then raise the matter of privilege.

V—POINT OF ORDER.

Posting of Policemen in the Precincts of the House.

திரு. கே. எ. மதியழகன் : On a point of order, Sir. கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த மன்றத்தினைச் சுற்றியும், இன்னும் சபாநாயகர், காரியதரிசி போன்றவர்களுடைய அறை நெடுகிலும் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் நிறுத்தி வைக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சொல்லப் போனால் ஒரு அங்கத்தினர் தன்னுடைய கடமையைச் சரிவர ஆற்ற முடியாத வண்ணம் இந்த மன்றத்தின் பிரிசிங்ட்ஸ் என்று சொல்லத்தக்க இடங்களில் எல்லாம் கூட......

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member may please put it in writing.

Sri K. A. MATHIALAGAN : It is very important and it is an invasion on the privileges of Members.

Mr. SPEAKER : When the Chair is on its legs, the hon. Member should first sit down. If the hon. Member wants to quote any rule, he must abide by the rule. If this is a matter of privilege, the hon. Member may put it in writing and give me notice, under the rules, to-day. To-morrow it will be taken into consideration.

VI—CALLING ATTENTION TO LATHI CHARGE ON WORKERS OF SOME OF THE TEXTILE MILLS AT COIMBATORE.

திரு. ஆர். செங்காலியப்பன் : கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, 41-வது விதியின்கீழ் அவசரப் பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த கீழ்க் கண்ட விஷயத்தை கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வருகின்றேன் :

கோயம்புத்தூரிலுள்ள கொத்தாரி, ராஜலட்சுமி, வசந்தா ஆலைகளில் வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்கள்மீது 1963-ம் வருஷம் நவம்பர் மாதம் 7-ம் தேதியில் நடந்த தடியடிப் பிரயோகமும் அதற்கான காரணங்களும் அவர்களைப் பாதுகாக்க எடுத்த நடவடிக்கைகளும் பற்றிய அவசரப் பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தை கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வருகிறேன்.

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MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member Sri K. P. Palanisamy also wants to raise the same matter I think?

SRI K. P. PALANISAMY: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member Sri Ellamma Naidu also wants to raise the same matter, I think?

SRI V. ELLAMMA NAIDU: Yes, Sir.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: I would like to make the following statement, Sir.

There are 77 textile mills in Coimbatore district of which 70 are members of the Mill Owners Association. The total labour force in these mills, which is approximately 50,000 is controlled by different labour unions such as the Coimbatore District Textile Workers Union (H.M.S.), Nation Textile Workers' Union (INTUC), District Mill Workers' Union, Coimbatore (AITUC), etc. Tension arose between the labour and the managements of these mills on the issue of payment of bonus to the workers. On the intervention of the Chief Minister a settlement was arrived at in respect of 32 mills on the question of payment of bonus. In 18 mills bonus issue was settled by direct talks between the labourers and the managements. In the Saroja Mills, the Sivananda Mills and the Premier Mills the workers accepted the bonus awarded by the managements earlier than the Chief Minister's award. The bonus granted by some of the mill-owners was more than what was suggested by the workers. While the labour leaders were ready to accept the formula arrived at by the Chief Minister and Labour Commissioner, the petty leaders in the mills were not for any settlement and adopted certain pressure tactics and coercive methods to achieve their object. Some mischief-mongers among the workers availed themselves of this opportunity and tried to mislead the workers and instigated the workers to surround the manager and strave him and achieve higher bonus by blackmail. Tension between the workers and the managements increased since 4—11—1963 when the workers in some of the mills in pursuance of these tactics surrounded the managerial staff of certain mills without allowing them to move about. The workers also picketed the bungalows of the mill managers abused them in vulger language and threatened them with dire consequences to their lives and properties. This was experienced in Somasundara Mills on 6th and 7th, Combodia Mills, Pankaja Mills, Kadiri Mills and Kothari Mills on 7th and Vasantha Mills on the 8th. As the situation was moving towards a serious show-down, the Police had to intervene to restore order.

In Vasantha Mills the bonus was decided on as 3¼ months pay and disbursed on the 7th. On 8—11—1963 at about 11-30 a.m. the workers numbering about 400, surrounded the factory manager (Sri Ramaswamy) and demanded one more month's additional bonus though they had accepted and received 3¼ months

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bonus on the previous day. On a written complaint from the management, the police interfered and chased away the workers (in the immediate presence of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western Range and the Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore) and apprehended 10 persons under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code.

In the Kothari Mills, according to the management the bonus would be 2½ months pay but this was not accepted by the workers. At about 10-30 a.m. on 8—11—1963 at Kothari Mills, the workers who were adopting a "go slow policy" for sometime resorted to a stay-in-strike and about 500 workers surrounded the Assistant Manager (Sri Ramamurthy) in his room and would not allow him and his staff to move out. On a written complaint from the management, the local police intervened and chased the workers out and set free the Assistant Manager (in the immediate presence and direction of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western Range and the Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore). During this scramble, 9 instigators who were on the spot sustained minor injuries and were apprehended under Section 151, Criminal Procedure Code.

Both the Kothari and Vasantha Mills declared a 'lock-out' as the workers were found to be uncompromising and resorting to violence. However, both the Mills were later reopened and the workers have resumed work.

In the meanwhile the District Collector convened a conference of the labour leaders on 8—11—1963. Besides the labour leaders of all political parties except the AITUC, the Commissioner of Labour, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western Range and the Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, attended the conference. The Collector advised the labour leaders to instruct the workers to resort only to constitutional methods in achieving their objects and to resume work from 9—11—1963 and they unanimously agreed to advise the workers to resume work.

Because of the tension which prevailed between the workers and the managements of the mills an order under Section 30 (2) of the Police Act was promulgated to be in force for 15 days from the evening of 8—11—1963. According to the latest report, the situation in Coimbatore is peaceful.

VII.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR EXCESS EXPENDITURE IN 1959-60.

DEMAND III—STAMPS ADMINISTRATION

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee and with the approval of the Governor, I move—

"That the Government be granted an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 4,70,030 under Demand III—Stamps Administration."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.